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Message Text

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20
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-02 SCA-01 RSC-01 /027 W
---------- 050229
R 160956Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3976
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, TT,.UK
SUBJ: DISPOSAL OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT PROPERTY ON TAIWAN

REF: (A) HONG KONG 0348; (B) STATE 002641

1. THIS MORNING, JAN 16, EMBOFF CONVEYED INFORMATION CONCERNING SUBJECT IN NOTE TO MOFA (SEE PARA 3 BELOW). AMBASSADOR HU, SHIH-HSUN, DIRECTOR, EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, ACCEPTED NOTE AND IN ENSUING, RELAXED CHAT, GAVE PROBABLY TENOR OF REPLY (PARA 2) WHICH HE AID WOULD BE FORTHCOMING "AFTER THOROUGH DISCUSSION."

2. (A) GROC WILL EXPECT BRITISH TO BE REPRESENTED BY LOCAL LAWYER WITH PROPER "CREDENTIALS" AND AN INFORMAL NOTE FROM EMBASSY OZCONVEYING NAME ND ADDRESS OF LAWYER" SIMILAR IN FORMAT TO NOTE QUOTED HEREAFTER PROBABLY WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE AS "CREDENTIALS."
(B) ALL NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE CONDUCTED BETWEEN THE LAWYER AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT BECAUSE LATTER "IS OWNER OF LAND IN QUESTION AND MOFA DOES NOT SELL PROPERTY."
(C) THE ASKING PRICE IS FAR TOO HIGH; BRITISH INTEREST IS LIMITED TO THE BUILDINGS ON THE LAND AND "THESE ARE OLD AND DECREPIT."

3. TEXT OF EMBASSY NOTE TO MOFA, DATED JANUARY 16, 1975, FOLLOWS (CUSTOMARY LAST PARA OMITTED):
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"THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRE-

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SENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

AND HAS THE HONOR TO INFORM THE MINISTRY THAT THE EMBASSY
HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN
WASHINGTON, D.C., TO CONVEY TO THE MINISTRY THE FOL-
LOWING NNORMAT ON:
"THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WISHES TO DISPOSE OF ITS
INTEREST IN THE EX-BRITISH CONSULATE PREMISES AT TAMSUI
AND IS PREPARED TO SURRENDER ALL THOSE INTERESTS TO THE
APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES IN RETURN FOR A PAYMENT TO THE

BRITISH GOVERNMENT OF A SUM REPRESENTING THE VALUE OF THE
IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LAND MADE BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.
"THE IMPROVEMENTS CONSIST OF THE EX-CONSUL'S RESIDENCE,

FOUR SMALL COTTAGES, AND A GATEKEEPER'S LODGE.
THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT A FAIR AND REASONABLE
PAYMENT FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS WOULD BE NT$4,000,000."
"THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE THE MINISTER'S EARLY
REACTION TO THE MESSAGE APPRECIATED."
UNGER

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Message Attributes

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